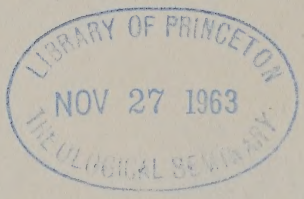
BF1261
.B25



BF1261
B25

EVOLUTIONISTIC SPIRITUALISM

EVOLUTIONISTIC SPIRITUALISM

LIBRARY OF PRINCETON
NOV. 27 1963
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

EVOLUTIONISTIC SPIRITUALISM

THE NEW RELIGION—
A SCIENTIFIC LADDER TO HEAVEN

by Henry E. Barnard

(A parapsychological lecturer of California and who has been for many years, a student of natural science and religion.)

A Reflection Book
Carlton Press New York, N. Y.

I dedicate this little book
to my devoted, deceased wife, Maude E. Barnard.

© Copyright 1963 by Henry E. Barnard
All rights reserved
Manufactured in the United States of America

PREFACE

The evolution theory in these pages is taken largely from the American Museum of Natural History, and from distinguished authors, including the famous historian and paleontologist, H. G. Wells. The parapsychological teachings are based on the works of the British scientist and parapsychologist, Sir Oliver Lodge; the parapsychologist, Dr. Peoples; the parapsychologist, Dr. J. B. Rhine of Duke University of North Carolina, and other famous authorities.

The principal object of this book is to join evolution. (which the author believes is *proven* by all the scientists in the world) to *ethereal* immortality, thus affording the person, who no longer believes in the old disproven Bible story but who believes in evolution instead, *an opportunity for a life after death!*

It is not the object of this book to attack anyone's religion. It merely wants to tell people the truth to make them happy.

By some change in church procedure, the teachings in this book could be adopted by different churchs. Read the chapter particularly on the Spiritualist Church.

This little book is not to be taken as a bible. It is merely a religious science guide.

H. E. B.

CONTENTS

	Preface	
I	Conversion	11
II	God	17
III	The Bible and Jesus Christ	22
IV	The Science of Evolution	27
V	Personal Survival	34
VI	Location of the Spirit World	40
VII	Life in the Spirit World—Including a Speech of Robert W. Ingersoll, after death	43
VIII	Reincarnation or Metempsychosis	57
IX	The History of Spiritualism	60
X	The Spiritualist Church	63

I
CONVERSION

In writing a book of this nature, friends, I believe it would be well to furnish you with a little of my background.

I was born in San Antonio, Texas, in 1887, the son of a rich lawyer. My mother and older sister were of the High Episcopal faith. What religion my father had, if any, I never knew.

I was baptized when I was a year old in the Episcopal faith. This was supposed to have cleansed me of Original Sin, the sin of Adam and Eve.

For the next ten years, I knew nothing about religion except that, like all little boys, I believed in God and also that all good little boys went to heaven when they died.

I remember that when I was about eight, I, once said

The next year I went through a very severe surgical operation and thought I was going to die. I thought how to myself, "Oh, if mama should die! What would I do? I would never see mama again."
horrible it would be. What would the experience be like? But I gave no thought to what the consequences would be after death.

My father died when I was ten and my mother married again.

My stepfather's brother was the superintendent of a

Presbyterian Sunday school. This was my first entry into a religious institution. In Sunday school, I learned about creation and Jesus Christ and that was about all.

What I enjoyed most about Sunday school were the lovely picnics.

Then the family moved North, to a little beach town called Asbury Park, New Jersey, on the Atlantic Ocean. I especially want to tell you about this town. Asbury was a prohibition community but there was a theater in it. South of Asbury and separated from it by a little artificial lake, named after John Wesley, was Ocean Grove, another small beach town.

Ocean Grove was bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean and on the west and south by a high iron fence, the gates of which were locked on Sunday. No one could enter but a pedestrian; not even a doctor could drive in. If there were a funeral, the coffin, I understand, would have to be carried out to the gate. Of course, there were no amusements of any kind and bathing in the ocean stopped according to law at ten o'clock on Sunday morning so that all the people could go to church. There was a big Methodist tabernacle in the heart of town.

Eight miles farther up the coast was Long Branch with two of the largest gambling houses in the United States and a saloon on every corner.

You could have your pick—earth, heaven, or hell, all within ten miles.

This was all right in such a small locality. But if Ocean Grove were to extend all over the United States, I would want to go abroad to live.

During that year in Asbury Park and the next in Philadelphia, I was the most religious boy you ever saw. I went to Sunday school every Sunday and to church twice. Sometimes it was in one Protestant church and sometimes

it was in another. I read a chapter of the Bible every night but, of course, I didn't understand what I was reading.

Then my parents and I took a steamship from New York to Galveston, Texas. We were at sea and it happened to be a Sunday. I found a man on board who could preach a little and we held a church service at sea. I was a very religious boy.

We arrived in San Antonio, Texas, in 1900. For the next four years, until I was seventeen, I hunted small game that abounded in the suburbs in those days. I hunted, of course, when I was not attending school.

I remember one day of that period. I was in school. A professor was talking about the "record of the rocks," meaning evolution. I thought that that was funny. I wasn't taught that in Sunday school but I passed the matter over. How he dared teach that even for one day in a parochial school, I will never know.

Then we sold our home and moved to Los Angeles, California. We arrived there when I was seventeen.

At that time, Christian Science was in its heyday. I went to some churches of this nature. I also went to Protestant churches of several denominations. Then I went to a Catholic school, St. Vincent's college, for the next four years. Since I was a Protestant, I didn't have to study catechism and had a free period in the study hall where the head college class studied it. I learned more about the Catholic religion than the average Catholic knew.

During those four years I was almost converted to the faith, because children and young people believe almost everything they are taught. There is a saying among Catholics that if you give them a child young enough, the child will always be a Catholic. This is because the average person, unfortunately, accepts his religion (not to cast

any reflection on the Catholics) the way he accepts his name. I remember one day when I was twenty. I had a sprained muscle in my leg. I thought it was a slight stroke. I thought, since I would no longer be any good in life, that I wanted to become a Catholic. I went down to the doctor's office. He gave me the "horse laugh" for I had only sprained a small muscle. I forgot all about religion for the moment. Remember the old saying, "When the devil gets sick, the devil a saint would be but when the devil gets well, the devil of a saint is he."

Well, for the next four years, up to the age of twenty-four, I believed in the Bible but didn't go to church very often. I was like most young men: when I wasn't working, I was going around with girls.

But at the age of twenty-four, in 1912, there was a terrible epidemic of polio in Los Angeles, the first epidemic of this kind I had ever seen. There were very few automobiles in those days. From our house to the street car line was about three blocks. One morning I saw a whole line of crippled children going down those three blocks to the car line. One hopped this way and another dragged himself another. I remembered how Jesus had loved little children. And I said if there is a loving *personal* God, as the Bible claims, he surely would destroy this germ. This was the first thing that weakened my belief in such a God. But I didn't pay too much attention to it at that time. No, not until about five years later when I was twenty-nine.

At that time, I was a luke-warm Protestant Christian.

I first read *The Age of Reason* by Thomas Paine, then speeches by Robert Ingersoll; and later *The Descent of Man* by Charles Robert Darwin. I became a full-fledged evolutionist and have been one ever since. And when I

adopted a moral code based upon Nature and Reason, it supplied my earthly needs.

But how about it when I was to die? *The fear of death is the reason for most peoples' accepting religion.* One evening I went to a spiritualistic seance conducted by the late, famous medium, John Slater. I also remembered things of a spiritistic nature that had taken place in the family. My sister told the death of her father about three months ahead of time and hit the very day. My grandfather, at the end of the Civil War, was awakened in the middle of the night by what seemed an awful explosion. When he jumped out of bed, he thought the floor was sinking and the house had been blown up. Then he thought that the coal oil lamp in his mother-in-law's room had exploded. But he found everything to be all right. The next morning he heard that his brother had been killed that night while coming up the Mississippi on a boat carrying home Union soldiers. A Confederate sympathizer had thrown a shell in her boiler. So he contributed the mental impression of an explosion to the explosion of the ship and the sinking of the floor to the sinking of the ship. Altogether that made pretty strong evidence for spiritistic immortality.

I then had all I needed—evolution, secular morality, and an ether world after death.

It is a beautiful thing to feel that your departed loved ones have never left you but can still sit in an armchair in the sitting room and look at you.

My mother who was a spiritist died later. The Spiritualist minister who conducted the funeral said, "We should not weep over the dead but congratulate them, for it is us whom they should feel sorry for." My recently departed wife said, after death, that the next world was much

better than this. There was no pain there. She certainly had had a lot of it here.

I want to state further that I have always been an upright man, I have never drunk because I considered it against natural law, but had I been a Christian all my life, I could have drunk because Jesus Christ turned water into wine, which I know He never did. The church peoples' excuse that it was grape juice is a silly alibi. Remember that Mahomet would not let his followers drink alcohol. I never smoked because I could not see why I should turn myself into a chimney and *violate another natural law*. I did not steal or break up other men's homes because I believed in the Golden Rule: "Do unto others what you would have them do unto you." But please remember that Jesus Christ copied this rule from the Chinese philosopher, Confucius, who lived five hundred years before Him, and said, "Do not unto others what you would not have them do unto you." The Silver Rule.

I do not hold the *"supposed"* turning of water into wine against the young man, Jesus Christ, because everybody around Him was drinking. But that statement in the Bible has done Western humanity a great deal of harm.

II
GOD

In dealing with any religion, naturally, the first thing everyone thinks about, but of which no one knows anything, is God.

The early cave man, who was entirely a hunter, very likely had no conception of God as his brain was only half human. Remember the animal has no conception of deity. But the dog looks upon his master as somewhat of a God.

When the early cave man developed into a herdsman, his views were about the same but when he later became civilized and settled down as a farmer, conditions drastically changed. He was now in a tribe or primitive community.

He looked upon his father as superior to himself and the chief of the tribe as superior to him. Then he thought of other chiefs, whom he at that time called "spirits." He had not as yet applied the name of God to them. It appears that man created God and that God did not create man.

Nature is divided into many different aspects, i.e., lightning that struck down the trees and sometimes man himself; rain that was needed to water his vegetation and the sun that was needed for everything.

At first, for instance, when the rain failed to come to water his crops, he stormed at that "spirit"; and the same was true about other "spirits" that failed him. Then he found that to be angry at the "spirits" would never do, so

he started cajoling them *and this started the beginning of religion in the world.*

In time, the new religion became too much of a task for man, so he had to get a special person to take care of it, *and that started priestcraft.*

Then the priests invented special rituals. Also they said the Gods must be appeased by giving them presents like burnt offerings, for instance. Before the presents and the offerings, a man's conscience was largely his guide. He sometimes forgot about conscience and used offerings instead. Sometimes a very weak person could escape punishment by giving enough offerings.

If a person were unable to atone for his sins while still alive, he went to hell and was burnt by fire, or if he were an Eskimo he would be punished by freezing for the rest of eternity.

Some early primitive people worshipped the sun. Of course, we know that the sun is just a ball of white hot gas but primitive people did not know this. They saw that the sun gave them light and warmth to make their vegetation grow. Sun worship in those ignorant days was a fairly good religion.

The two earliest civilizations were the Egyptian and the ancient Sumerian. They both had many Gods but Osiris was the Egyptians' leading God. The Egyptians also had a God whose special duty it was to take charge of the dead.

But the ancient Jews were monotheists who believed in the "thunder and lightning God." Like the sun worshippers, they were monotheists also who believed in one God. The Jews called their God Jehovah. I believe the Jewish idea was better than having many different Gods, don't you?

All primitive cities were built around a temple. It

seems that the temple was the very life of the community. Even our modern Catholic communities started around a cathedral.

It seems that man can hardly do anything for himself, for every time he turns around he looks to God to give him a "sugar tithe."

Now as we advance farther into history, we come to the Greek and Roman civilizations.

They had many Gods even if they were the highest cultured nations in the ancient world, and here again we contact polytheism.

They had a god or gods of some kind for every human desire or appetite. The head god of the ancient Greeks was Zeus. Their god of war was Mars, our red shining planet. They had a goddess of sexual love, our beautiful silver shining planet, Venus. They built a shrine in her honor where they kept holy prostitutes who gave their earnings to the Goddess.

Venus also had a messenger of sexual love, known as Cupid, who shot arrows of love into those he wanted to capture.

The Romans even worshiped the River Tiber. There is a saying, "O Tiber, Father Tiber, to whom the Romans pray."

The head Roman god was called Jupiter. Their other gods corresponded in nature to those of the Greeks. These different gods and goddesses were called the olympian gods.

As for so-called miracles, the ancient Jews and Christians had nothing on the Greeks and Romans.

The ancient Greek and Roman Gods lived like men. For example, there was a beautiful maiden, Leda, lying nude on the bank of a lake. The god Zeus saw her and became infatuated with her. He incarnated himself into

the body of a swan and swam up to her. She recognized him to be the god Zeus and no ordinary swan. So she made love to him. Later she laid two eggs, the size of ostrich eggs, and out of which hatched two little gods. Do you believe this? I do not but it is no more of a miracle than the whale swallowing Jonah. Remember, even though a whale has an immense mouth, its throat is but six inches wide and there is enough hydrochloric acid in its stomach to kill six men. How could Jonah get there and remain for six days? I heard a devoted religious man say he believed that God could make a whale that could swallow Jonah. This might be true but if He could perform a miracle of this nature, why has He not performed other miracles and cured disease germs and stopped earthquakes and tornadoes from destroying innocent cities? Remember, back in the 13th century the Asiatic cholera the black death) killed off half the people of Europe while all the churches were praying night and day to stop it. But God did not stop it.

Why has God failed man this way? I will tell you, if you will listen attentively. *There are two laws in the universe—one a physical and the other, a psychic-ethereal or spiritual law.* If there is a divine Power, He has never been known to violate the *physical* law but could operate through the psychic-ethereal one. Of course, in the days of ignorance and superstition, people thought that the physical law was the one through which He operated (and thousands of people still do). To believe that God parted the waters of the Red Sea to permit the Jews to cross and then closed them on the Egyptians is the rankest of superstitions. Nowhere in Egyptian history is there any account of a Pharaoh having been drowned in the Red Sea. Anyone believing in this so-called miracle should have his head examined or go back to believing in Santa Claus or

Cinderella and her little white mice. I have a drawing at home of angels conveying a house through the air. That was believed in during the "dark ages." *They are still quite dark.*

There are today quite a few conceptions of God.

Atheism believes in no God of any kind. There used to be a saying that the man who did not believe in God was a fool, but I will reverse it and say that the man who believes in a personal, all present, loving God is a fool.

Agnosticism neither affirms nor denies the existence of a Deity. This term was created by the scientist, Henry Huxley, and means a doubter.

Pantheism claims the universe in its entirety is God.

And the belief in a personal God. If you believe this way and should get sick, be sure to get a good doctor for all that God can do for you is to guide you to a good one. The *doctor* must cure you for God cannot because you are dealing with the physical law now and not the psychic-ethereal law. There used to be a saying in the old days, "Pray to God but when you meet the savages be sure that your powder is dry."

The National Spiritualist Association of America believes that God is *infinite intelligence.* They do not say that God is *a* spirit but that God *is* spirit. This is, to a certain extent, Pantheism. I believe this is about the best conception and would suggest the following prayer:— "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, ruler of the universe, with Nature as your agent." That prayer I have composed myself. However, is there intelligence in nature or just something adapting itself to the surroundings about it? Darwin's *Natural Selection* or *The Survival of the Fittest.* This is a question I cannot answer but if you want a God, I believe, as I just said, that *infinite intelligence* is the best conception.

The American Indian believed in a *personal* God whom he called the Great Spirit. But remember he was an ignorant savage.

I wish to say a word or two about Divine healing. If your trouble is of the nervous system or can be directly touched through it, Divine power (if there is a deity) or even assistance from the Spirit World can help you because your nerves are a part of your soul and not your body. Sometimes, of course, this healing is done solely through the power of one's mind, but this may not always be permanent.

People in the world have prayed so long that even if there is no God, they have developed a powerful faculty for veneration. Girls even idolize motion picture actors and military heroes.

III
THE BIBLE AND JESUS CHRIST

The Jewish Old Testament of the Bible is about 3,000 years old. It was written by the early Jewish priests.

In my opinion, it constituted a very good religion for the ignorant people of those days. But the Jews never knew anything about the creation of the world until the Babylonian captivity. This I absolutely know because I once was lent by the Rosicrusians a Bible written by a man who knew Moses personally and it had no conception of creation in it. Naturally, the Jews had not learnt of the Babylonian conception. They learnt of this conception during their captivity in ancient Babylon.

The Garden of Eden and Adam and Eve conception was the universal conception of all the nations, including Babylon, in ancient Sumeria. I guess it was a pretty good conception for those ancient days but *it is absolutely destroyed today by the modern science of evolution.*

As for the Ten Commandments, one surely does not believe in this modern day that Moses got them directly from God but rather from his own logical brain. He went up upon a mountain, because in those ignorant days, people thought that the blue of the sky was heaven, and he went, he thought, to talk to God.

These commandments made a very good moral code for the ancient Jews but they were not, as anyone should be able to see, the commandments for all the human race. Remember the ancient Jews composed a very minute portion of the human family.

The first three commandments pertain to the Deity only and you can take them as you wish but the ones pertaining to *morality* are different and *they should always be made to agree with secular morality.*

Two thousand years ago in Bethlehem a babe was born to a Jewish maiden known as Mary, wife of Joseph, the carpenter.

At that time, a strange new light was seen in the sky. This light can be explained by modern astronomy. It was not of Divine origin. It happened to be Tycho Brahe's star that could be seen very clearly in the sky in that part of the world at the time of the birth of Jesus Christ, *the same star reappearing in the 13th Century.* The Wise Men of the East, who, according to our knowledge of astronomy, were anything but wise, saw this light and took it for a supernatural sign.

When Jesus was a boy, he was quite bright but that was nothing. We have quite a few prodigies today.

People until recently knew very little about his whereabouts from the age of twelve to twenty-six. But since we have recently discovered the Essene scrolls in caves near the Dead Sea, we have a rather complete knowledge. Undoubtedly, when he was not practicing carpentry, Jesus was studying under the Essene monks. *Almost all of his future utterances were nothing but repetitions of their teachings, which shows most conclusively that he was not divinely inspired.*

In the light of the *proven* science of evolution, we are forced to look upon Jesus Christ as the "son of man" and not the "son of God." There is no need of an "atonement" because there was no "original sin."

At the age of twenty-six, he heard John the Baptist saying that a messiah was coming to the Jews. They had long hoped for a messiah who would deliver them from Roman bondage as Moses had delivered them from the Egyptians. I guess this young man thought since his birth had been heralded by a star that he was the Messiah.

He then went into the wilderness and fasted. He started preaching for the next two years but called himself, at first, only the "son of man" and not the "son of God." He gathered around him twelve ignorant fishermen as disciples and a handful of slaves. With these, he foolishly hoped to whip the mighty Roman Empire and become king of the Jews. As a result, he got himself crucified and all his followers for the next three hundred years were thrown to the lions. But he was a very kind man and *his religion was one of charity. Otherwise, all that we can say is that he died a Jewish martyr for a lost cause.*

Gautama Buddha was also a very kind man. He gave up princely robes to become a beggar and preach charity. I believe these two men were the greatest apostles of kindness the world has ever known.

But to say, in this modern age, that Jesus Christ was

miraculously conceived can hardly be believed. Lots of people said, in his day, that they were the son of some god or another. Even Alexander the Great made this claim.

Now we come to Paul of Tarsus, known later as St. Paul, who was a Mythrinist at the time. He went to see the Christians tortured. They died with such fortitude that it converted him to Christianity. But, remember, because they died with fortitude does not mean that their religion was true. They had an extreme amount of faith and courage.

At first, the Christians were perplexed about the crucifixion of their Master. But Paul explained it by stating that he had to die on the cross to save mankind from original sin but which we know today does not exist.

Jesus Christ was a severe ascetic. He said that if you merely looked upon a woman with carnality in your mind, you committed adultery with her in your heart. St. Paul was an ascetic, too. He said the single state was better than the married one, but if you couldn't behave yourself, it was better to marry than to burn.

So, you see, *Christianity has had large doses of asceticism.* There is no other religion in the Western world like it for asceticism. And, in my opinion, it has done Western civilization a great deal of harm.

The saying, "washed in the blood of the lamb," is from Paul's Mithradism. In the ancient Mythric religion ,a devotee stood under a scaffold upon which a bull had its throat cut and the blood ran down upon the sinner.

The early Christians, like most other believers, got most of their beliefs from religions that came before them. The ancient Jews got their idea about the Devil from the ancient Persian religion of Zoroaster, meaning the Evil One. The early Christian fathers built up the idea of the "Holy Ghost" from a Asian conception.

And now we come to the first part of the 4th Century

and the Roman Emperor Constantine. Until three hundred years after the death of Christ, the Christians had been hiding in cemeteries to escape the Roman soldiers and being thrown to the lions.

At the time of Constantine, the Roman Empire was in a state of decay. The people no longer believed in the old Gods. They also had too much luxury and had become degenerate. Constantine thought he had better put some spirituality into them.

It is hard to say what kind of a man Constantine was. He undoubtedly was the most superstitious of superstitious. He believed that he saw, in mid-day, a fiery cross in the sky under which was written, "By this sign, thou shalt conquer." He said that if he won the battle of Melvin Bridge, 312 A.D. he would make Rome a Christian nation. He accidently (and to the writer's belief, unfortunately) won this battle. He made the simple Nazarene into a gilded Roman god. You can see that Jesus Christ was only the *core* of Christianity, so to speak. *The Roman Emperor Constantine was the true founder.*

At the Council of Nicea, 325 A.D., Constantine had the Old and New Testaments of the Bible put together as the official Bible of all the Christians.

Then started the official Catholic (the word meaning universal) church. A few years later it divided into two branches, one the Roman Catholic, which we have in America today, and the other, the Greek Catholic which Russia had until the Socialist Revolution of 1917.

From now on Christianity was spread by the torture rack and the sword. A person can be made to believe in any religion or political system by such methods.

For a thousand years, from the 6th to the 16th century, which time was known as the "Dark Ages," the Western world was veiled under a cloud of ignorance, all the

religious science of the ancient world having been blotted out. Any information about religious matters was supposed to come from the Roman Catholic Vatican only. It is claimed that the Catholic Church burnt the beautiful library at Alexandria. I do not know whether this is true or not.

After the Council of Nicea, the Bible was translated into Greek. This Version is known as the Vulgate. Since the Old Testament was originally written in consonants only, it must have been an awful task. Later there was a Bishop's Bible.

In 1610, King James I of England had the Bible translated into the present version which is known as the King James' Version. The Catholic Bible is a little different. The "Word of God"—which one would think should be perfect—has had a good many changes, we see!

People, until the time of Charles Robert Darwin, in the middle of the 19th Century in the Western world, believed implicitly in the Bible.

IV
THE SCIENCE OF EVOLUTION

In the early part of the 19th Century there arose a great naturalist by the name of Charles Robert Darwin. He first took a trip around the world on the British ship called the *Beagle*.

On this trip that he commenced to observe the different species of life. In 1859, he published his book, *The*

Origin of the Species by Means of Natural Selection, and, in 1871, *The Descent of Man.*

He was defended from the fierce attacks of the churchmen by the scientist Henry Huxley.

Evolution now, however, is verified by every scientist in the world!

This kindhearted man, Darwin, waited quite a while before publishing his findings because he realized how much it would affect the views of so many good people.

There had been some attempts made by the ancient Greeks in the field of evolution but they had very little science and most likely the Early Christian Church smothered their attempts.

There are two primary elements in nature—electricity and cosmic ether. There are also 72 chemical elements.

Six hundred miles above this earth, there is no more air; it is no longer breatheable at 10,000 feet without an oxygen mass. But what is there in the rest of the 93,000-000 miles up to the sun? Ether. Both light and solar heat are nothing but the vibrations of ether. If there were no ether, we would get neither light nor heat from the sun. Also it is upon the vibrations of ether that your radio operates. *Ether is everywhere and in everything!*

Inside the body of man, beast, or bird, there is an ethereal, electrical soul which extends to the extremities of your body and is a counterpart thereof. It is to the other as underclothes are to outside garments. At one time they used to think that a man's breath was his soul but of course that was only ignorance.

We evolutionists affirm that the sun came from the primary, infinite elements of nature. These elements, being infinite, need have no beginning or end and always could have been. The reason we cannot understand the

infinite is because our brains are finite. (The German scientist, Ernst Heckel.)

The world was evolved from the sun by the condensation of the latter; this condensation formed into revolving balls, because the parent body was also revolving. One of these balls became our earth and the others became the other planets in our solar system. We know the earth came from the sun through spectrum analysis, which proves that the same minerals which are in the earth are also in the sun but in gaseous form.

Other hot stars, suns, are condensing every day and most likely, in time, will produce other worlds.

The age of our earth as calculated from the "primary rocks" is about two billion three hundred million years.

As the earth cooled, air, water and vegetation formed. And later, *by the action of carbon with electricity upon the chemistry of matter, aquatic life was begun* in unicellular form in the shallow, warm, and muddy bays of the sea. This creation of life by the action of carbon *was purely a process of nature and not a Divine act.* (H. Spencer Jones, astronomer Royal of England.) I, myself, saw life created one day in a test tube in the chemical laboratory of the University of Southern California.

This first age of evolution is known as the Fish Age. It took a fish 18,000,000 years to develop a backbone.

Now, as the air became free of carbon dioxide and became breatheable, amphibious creatures (those that could live both on land or in the water) crawled shoreward and became reptiles—the Reptilian or Second Age in evolution.

The first reptiles found the earth already habited by insects; they had been here since the Silurian Age, 375,000,000 years ago, because they could breathe air still con-

taining a little carbon dioxide but the reptiles had to wait until it was pure. It is claimed that insects are not affected by the fall-out of the atomic bomb.

Insects and worms came out of the swamps in the same way that animal life, including man, came out of the sea. However, bacteria originates under filthy conditions in nature and also in the animal body.

Some of the reptiles on land began to run a little more than others and thereby developed rudimentary legs and became animals. Some of the others hopped a little more than they ran and thereby developed wings and became birds. Birds still retain the reptilian feature of egg-laying. But the animals lost it by coming up through the marsupials, or pouch-bearing animals, and thus became mammals.

As the earth cooled further, it wrinkled up, like a prune, and thus formed mountain ranges. You know you don't find one mountain here and another somewhere else. They are in ranges. Mountain building took place from 230,000,000 to 36,000,000 (the Alps and other younger ranges) years ago.

It was in this Reptilian Age that the giant dinosaur lived. The one called the brontosaurus measured sixty feet in length. It was a vegetarian but when it bellowed, it sounded as if it would almost shake the earth. There was another called the tyrannosaurus that was carnivorous. There was a bird called the pterodactyl with a twenty vertebrate tail showing clearly its reptilian descent. You know that the tails of animals and birds are nothing but vestiges of reptilian bodies of a past age. What use do you think the cat has for its tail?

Now, in this new Mammalian or Third Age of evolution, we come to a little tree-climbing creature, known as a Sub-Primate who is the ancestor of both ape and man,

the latter two being classed as Primates. This is the Fourth or Primate Age of evolution and extends up to the present.

Friends, don't allow your feelings to be hurt. *Man did not come from a monkey.* He is man's *cousin,* not his *ancestor.* And *there is no such a thing as a "missing link."* By chemical analysis, the blood of the anthropoid (man-like) ape *is identical with that of the human* but the blood of no other animal is. There are a great number of proofs of evolution. I shall give you a few more concerning man's evolution in the next chapter. Please remember that these transitions from one creature to another were achieved through millions of generations and were caused by environment.

Apes originally slept in trees to escape predatory enemies.

One day one of these apes presumably came down from a tree and threw a rock at a rabbit. The rock happened to have some flint in it and set fire to the grass. Or, perhaps, as some have said, he saw lightning cause fire. Anyhow he saw the other animals run in terror from it. "Ah," he said, "I have made a discovery. I don't have to sleep in a tree any more. I can sleep in a cave and just keep a little fire burning at the mouth and be perfectly safe." Perhaps, girls, he made his "old lady" stay up all night to mind the fire, for, as you know in those days the males clubbed the women daily.

I believe that the discovery of fire was the greatest discovery in the world for it made a man out of a walking ape.

This transition from ape to man took place about 2,000,000 years ago. The first man has been called pith-ecan-thro-pus erectus. This first man was called the man of the "Old Stone Age." He could not stand erect because

his backbone had not yet straightened and he had no articulate speech. He could only howl and growl like an animal.

The early cave man saw that he could put a stone on one end of a long pole and thereby have a spear. Later, perhaps, he was walking through the woods and a twig hit him in the face. He saw the elastivity of matter. Having a bow an arrow, he did not have to go close to his dangerous enemies.

Now he was a pretty accomplished fellow, wasn't he? But he still ate his food raw. Maybe one day his "old lady" accidentally dropped a piece of meat into the fire at the mouth of the cave when she was preparing his supper. She didn't want to waste it, for very likely he didn't give her too much, so she ate it and, what do you know? It tasted better than it did raw. She told her husband about it the next day when he came home from hunting and finally induced him to try it. Mankind has been cooking his food ever since. And that was fifty thousand years ago, still in the "Old Stone Age." Just think how habits stick with us. Women seem to be more possessed with habits than men. I once knew a man who had a perfectly good tooth in the front of his mouth crowned with gold just because it was popular in those days to have gold teeth.

Some of the "Old Stone Age" people belonged to the Neanderthal Race which extended over a large portion of prehistoric Europe.

Back in that day, the huge mammoth, the predecessor of the modern elephant, roamed the earth and must have furnished a lot of food for the cave man. The cave man tamed the wild dog. The dog had been on earth long before man. Also the fierce, saber-toothed tiger roamed, in prehistoric times, in what is now the state of California.

Due to the Glacial Age, the cave man grew very cold.

His original coat of ape fur was not sufficient to keep him warm, and he did not want to live in the tropics like his cousin apes for he enjoyed hunting. He covered himself with the skins of animals. This practice, of course, smothered out in time even his ape fur, so we have hairless people today. Some seem to have quite a little hair on their bodies, don't they?

His energetic mate started making dishes of clay but did not polish them. Polishing was not done until later in the "New Stone Age."

At last, he had acquired a great deal, this man of the "Old Stone Age." He had a home, that is, if you want to call a cave a home; he had clothes on his back, dishes to eat out of and a well-clubbed wife.

Now we come to the "New Stone Age," 25,000 years ago. We discover that the Cro-Magnon people lived in what is now modern France. They were the first artists in the world for they painted on the walls of their caves, but the paintings were like those of little children.

These people were the first in the world to have articulate speech; they could stand up straight, and therefore were somewhat like ourselves.

We are through with the Paleozoic Age and have come to the Historic Age and our story of evolution is over.

To me, it is a *true* and interesting story. I hope that *you* have enjoyed it more than the old Bible tale.

But before closing this chapter, it is necessary to say a word about *morality*. Since the evolutionist, like every one else, *must lead an upright life,* and since he has given up the Bible and the Ten Commandments, it becomes necessary for him to adopt a *secular* moral code. This, I believe, should be as follows: One must base all problems upon science and philosophy, supported by history, and modified by public opinion.

V
PERSONAL SURVIVAL

Now, then, is there personal immortality? This life would be much discounted if there weren't. Since the beginning of time, the average person has longed for three things—health, happiness, as they wished it, and life after death.

Science will tell you that both cosmic ether and electricity are indestructible. Therefore, since our animated souls are composed of these two elements, joined together by the powerful, racial subconscious mind, which is a billion years old, how can they perish when the excresence, the physical body, dies? No, they will continue to live in an "Ether World" which is just as real to them as the material world is to us.

Punishment or reward in their world, as well as ours, is mental, through one's conscience and is circumstantial, not *physical.* But *there is no eternal* punishment. In time, you make amends for your sins and become happy again.

Spirits put forth vibrations which certain mortals, known as mediums who have highly sensitized nervous systems, can receive and convey to us in the form of communication. Ask people in any station of life if they have not known of others who have had premonitions, etc.

But mediumship is dangerous as there are just as many imperfect spirits in the next world as there are mortals in this. If your mediumship is weak, you are apt

to be worried to death by them and also by some who are dishonest enough to give you false messages.

But, friends, do not let the chance of contacting a false medium interfere with your pursuit of Spiritualism. *It is too vitally important!* Remember, there are plenty of money counterfeiters but we still keep our currency, *We catch the counterfeiters.* Whenever a false medium is caught, *he should be immediately exposed. In my opinion, faking the dead is almost like robbing the dead; it is ghoulish!*

Do not attempt to operate the ouija board unless you have mediumistic powers, for you will only register your own subconscious thoughts.

You can thank your powerful, billion-year-old, racial, subconscious mind for *holding together* your cosmic ether and electricity, of which your soul is composed, thereby making immortality possible by not permitting the ether and electricity to go off in different directions when you die.

Houdini, the magician, left a note with his wife to be read after death. At first it was a little hard for mediums to decipher the code, for very likely Houdini was not very responsive. *But in* 1929, *his wife signed her name to a statement that the code had been deciphered.* (Psychic Observer Aug. 25, 1938.) But one must not expect the impossible, for "message" mediums receive nothing but visions and vibrations that generally have to be interpreted.

Also there are mediums known as "physical" mediums who etherealize your love ones so that in a dark room you can see and hear them. This is done by the spirit taking a substance called ectoplasm from out of the mucous membranes of the medium's body. This is very hard on the medium's vitality, and therefore you do not hear of too many physical mediums. You are apt to find more

frauds among "physical" than among "message" mediums. Therefore, be a little critical. The etherealized form of a spirit presents a vaporous-like outline. The test I use is this: I must recognize the *face* of the spirit; I don't always depend upon the voice.

Throughout the universe similars attract similars; therefore, it is best not to patronize immoral or ignorant mediums for they will attract similar spirits and your messages may do more harm than good.

If you want medical information, for instance, seek a spirit who was a doctor, not one who was a ditch digger.

Some of our universities have been experimenting, *in their laboratories* with Spiritualism and have *proven* it. The following universities have been working in this field.

Duke Unversity of North Carolina, the leading exponent; Harvard, Columbia, and the City College of New York.

They call it extrasensory perception or a branch of parapsychology. I have been in communication with Dr. J. B. Rine, head of this work at Duke University. He informs me that both clairvoyance and prophecy *are proven in his laboratory.*

I will now furnish you with a wonderful demonstration that often happens in Spiritualism.

Sometimes in sleep a person's soul will temporarily leave his body and go somewhere else while the body sleeps. So long as the "silver cord" that connects soul and body is not broken, the soul will fly back into the body before the person wakes up. *This has been demonstrated on many occasions by very reliable people.*

I want to say a word about animal souls. *Any creature that has a mind, not just a nervous system like a worm, has immortality of soul.*

Sir Oliver Lodge, the British scientist and modern

apostle of Spiritualism, said in my presence, "Why do you think that you are so superior to the dog? He can see as well as you can, hear as well, and smell a great deal better." True, he walks on all fours and has a coat of hair but you walked on all fours when you were a baby and crawled. And when you were four months old, you had a coat of fine hair all over your body.

I lost a pet dog of mine once and buried her on Friday. The following Sunday I went to a spiritualist seance. The medium knew nothing about my dog. She stopped talking and looked at me and said, "You have just had a funeral for a woman." I said it was a female, not a woman but a dog. She said, "Now I see her. She is lying on the floor a few feet from you. Her name is Spot." The dog was white and had a beautiful *black* diamond in the center of her head, so the medium got the impression that her name was Spot. Mediums generally get vibrations that have to be interpreted. The medium said the dog told her (she meant that she read her mind, of course) to get another dog.

I want to give some more explanations of spirit communication.

My ex-wife had not been dead a week when I was standing outside a Spiritualist church one afternoon waiting for it to open. There was a lady standing alongside me who was a medium, but she was not giving messages at that moment for money. I told her that my wife had just died but that was all. She said, "She is standing alongside you. She had trouble with her legs." That was true because she was lame in both legs. She said, "There is a man standing beside her and he is a Mason." I happened to remember that was the first man I had introduced her to the second day after I met her.

One time at a Spiritualistic meeting, the medium said

that my wife was but four feet away from me and that her dead mother was with her. The medium said my wife's mother had been a Baptist. I had never known the religion of my mother-in-law but my stepson later verified it by saying that it was true that his grandmother had been a Baptist. I think this is an excellent test. She couldn't have read my mind for I had no knowledge about my wife's mother's religion.

Another time my wife was talking to me through the same good medium. I had recently done something that I think was foolish. My wife used to double up her fist and would say that she was going to hit me right between the "horns." Of course, she never did hit me but that was a pet saying of hers. The medium said, "Your wife wants me to hit you right in the face." I know of no demonstration any more truthful than that.

I will tell you of another demonstration, which occurred in my life when I was a child. One night my mother dreamed of a lady friend of hers who was bringing her an armful of tube roses. She immediately woke up but still smelt the roses although it was in the winter and there were no flowers around. The next day she heard that her mother was dying. Ever after, when she smelt flowers that did not exist, it meant that someone was going to die, or something was going to happen that was very serious.

I will now tell you about spirit photography. There have been cases reported of mediums having had their pictures taken. There would be spirit faces grouped around them in the picture. You know how sensitive a photo negative is. It requires sensitiveness to deal with spirits.

I am now going to tell you about one of the finest mediums America has ever known. Her name was Cora

L. V. Scott Richmond. She was born April 21, 1840, and died on January 3, 1923.

Cora L. V. Scott was the daughter of David W. and Lodency Butterfield. Cora's birth place was near Cuba, New York.

Her father was liberal-minded in matters of religion; while her mother was from a Presbyterian family, she was nevertheless a truth-seeker.

In the fall of 1851, when Cora was eleven years old, she had her first experience with Spiritualism. She was seated in her mother's arbor with her school slate and pencil by her side. She thought she had fallen asleep; she woke up and found her slate covered with writing that was not her own. She showed it to her mother. When the latter saw it signed a departed sister, she was slightly shocked.

At another time, when she was sleeping, her right hand commenced to tremble and when a slate and a pencil was placed in it, she again wrote. The writing was signed by members of the family who had departed to the Spirit World. They said they were not dead.

Cora started on the public platform at the early age of eleven but it was not until she was fifteen that she spoke before large audiences.

She now had a spirit guide who used her vocal organs and her brain instead of her hand. There were twelve very highly educated spirits in back of her guide.

When Cora talked before some of the most highly educated men of her day, they tried in every way to confuse her and disprove Spiritualism. But they failed most horribly and especially were spellbound to think such wisdom could come from such an uneducated young girl as Cora.

Cora worked in the interest of Spiritualism all over the United States and even across the Atlantic.

She was the friend of Nettie Colburn Maynard, who wrote a book claiming that Abraham Lincoln had had interviews with the Spirit World.

Cora peacefully passed to the Spirit World at her home in Chicago at the age of eighty-three.

VI
LOCATION OF THE SPIRIT WORLD

Now where is this Ether World? It is inside the air right here in your room, above your room, and everywhere. "The Spirit World 'round this world of sense floats like an atmosphere."

The great scientist and parapsychologist, Sir Oliver Lodge said, "Just because you cannot see a thing, don't say it does not exist. See how smooth the edge of a sharp razor looks but put it under the microscope and it looks like an old saw." There are many radio and television messages going through the room right now but you know nothing about them unless you have a receiving set. The same is true about disembodied spirits. You cannot detect them unless there is a psychic person present or you are one yourself.

The Christian Church people use to think that heaven was above the clouds and hell under the center until they discovered the earth to be round; then they thought hell was at the center of it.

But now we have a telescope on top of Mount Palomar in California that can penetrate two billion light years (light travels 186,000 a second into space. Multiply that by the distance it travels in a year and then multiply that by the distance it travels in two billion years and you can tell just how far that big eye can see. And they have found no God, no heaven, no angels, just an endless extension of revolving solar systems all running away from a common center, as if at one time the universe had been solid and there had occurred a gigantic explosion.

As to hell, they know that the center of the earth is a solid core of metal. They have shot radio beams through it; also earthquake vibrations have gone through it, proving it to be solid and, therefore, no abode.

Now, friends, if you want an abode after death, you must accept the ethereal type.

In the days of ignorance ,the reason men thought hell was an abode of fire was because of volcanoes. But can you imagine a God so cruel as to burn a poor soul with fire for the rest of eternity? Eternity! Just think of it! The mind cannot even conceive it.

The reason they thought heaven was above the earth was because they thought the blue of the sky a solid firmament. I have a book showing a drawing of angels pouring water out of urns from out of the windows of heaven as rain. The people imagined anything about heaven and hell in those ignorant days.

The Spirit World is simply a world inside the physical, only in a finer form.

What is cosmic ether? It is a liquid finer than air inside the molecules thereof and it fills all of space. But it seems to be a pretty substantial thing especially to disembodied spirits. In a way, we are living in the Spirit World right now although we are still enclosed in flesh.

When you walk down the street, you walk right through groups of disembodied spirits. But don't fear them. They can do you no harm unless you are a medium and don't know how to control your mediumship. Then they might trouble you a little but I have never heard of any harm they could do you physically *unless one should obsess himself into your body* but this generally takes place in a medium only and then most rarely.

People used to think of discarnate spirits as being ghosts and felt a certain amount of terror towards them. But forget the old time ghost story. Spirits are nothing but people enclosed in ether instead of flesh.

On other planets inhabited by creatures that have minds, there must of course be spirit worlds because the laws of the universe must undoubtedly be the same everywhere.

Now how do we go about getting to heaven? The "Passport to Heaven" is the *development of character.* Don't sin all your life and then when you are dying, pray to Jsus to help you for, I am afraid, he isn't going to do it. Read the speech of Robert Ingersoll in the next chapter; he will tell you all about it.

I must say a word about the developement of character.

Next to your religion or "way of life," your character is the most important thing you have. It is even more important than your health although that is tremendously important. I would rather have a good character and be sick than healthy and wicked. You should have at least a 75 per cent good character. How do you get this kind of character? I have made a study of human character and will tell you. First, bad people should not have children; heredity is a powerful force. Second, a child should be carefully trained in character from three to six to sixteen

years of age. Third, children especially, but also adults, should associate with good people only. One rotten apple can spoil a whole barrel. Fourth, after sixteen, individuals should continuously *study themselves* and make improvements for the rest of their lives.

VII
LIFE IN THE SPIRIT WORLD

You can travel with the speed of electricity, floating through the air, or you can walk in the Spirit World without paying a cent. Just think of that you people who have "itching feet!"

While no children are born in the Spirit World, of course, there are those who go over when they are still children and grow to adult age there. It is a great place for motherly women who like to mother children.

While there are no marriages there, nevertheless, there are "spirit sweethearts," due to opposite magnetism. It is said they are more cherished over there than the ones in this world.

As for eating and drinking, I believe there is some way of gratifying the "flavor ring" but of course no food or drink is consumed.

You can almost do anything in that world that you can in this and certain other things. *But do not commit suicide unless you have an excellent cause, and I repeat, a most excellent cause, for the Spirit World generally does not like suicides and you may find your position over there at first very hard.*

There are seven states of progression over there. The lower two are not very good for it is generally in these states that the mental punishment for sins committed on earth takes place.

I want to say a word about "haunted houses." All houses where mortals have lived and died are "haunted houses." In many cases, the present owner holds no title for the former one holds it in mortmain. There are more guests at the banquet table than the host invited. But don't fear them; they are your loved ones. However, it is not well to reside in a house where *evil* spirits dwell, for while they can do you no *bodily* harm, they can bring you bad luck. I have known people who have lived in haunted houses and who have suffered a great deal of misforune while they resided there. If you ever get into a house of this kind, it would be well to get out of it as soon as possible.

"What kind of clothes do the angels wear?" This question is often asked. Spirits are electrical, ethereal entities and can shine in the dark like glowworms. But if they desire one kind of clothes or another, they make them out of ether by the power of their minds. Cosmic ether is more substantial than you think. This undoubtedly seems queer to you but remember how thep television can bring to you through the ether pictures from hundreds of miles away and even colored ones. Sixty years ago, if anyone had told you about television, you would have thought them fit for the lunatic asylum.

The uncertainty of the minds of non-believers robs them of the glorious expectation of meeting and living with their departed loved ones again.

It is a sad thing not to believe in immortality. When you are young, even though you realize all the disease

germs and other afflictions in this world, you do not want to die and think that death is the end of you.

Were I a military commander, I would like to have all spiritualists in my command because they are not afraid to die.

Mahomet taught his followers that if they died fighting in behalf of their religion, they would go straight to heaven, regardless of what other sins they might have. The promise made fanatical fighters of them.

The Christians did not have this promise in their religion, so during the 11th and 13th centuries the Moslems "licked the very pants off" the Christian Crusaders and prevented them from retaking their Holy Land.

The soul of man was believed, even in the earliest ages, to be some vague or nebulous *thing* after death.

Some people say that if there is a next world, they will be as well off when they get there as a believer, so why worry now. I will answer this.

First, just think of the grief you suffer when you lose a beloved one and do not know whether you will ever see him or her again.

Second, if you are prosperous, you may be careless about developing character. Then you will be in a terrible fix when you get there.

Third, you will be uncertain. As I said before, you may be terribly afraid to die, especially if you believe in the old idea of eternal hellfire.

Fourth, you will not have been in communication with souls from the next world and will know nothing about it. Therefore, you may find yourself rather lost over there at first, like a man in a dense forest.

The ancient Egyptians believed that some day they would rise up, even eagles, and go and inhabit their

Gods. That is why they mummified their dead. There is a belief among people today that the dead will rise up when Gabriel blows his trumpet on Judgement Day.

The ancient Greeks believed that both good and bad souls went across the River Styx to Hades. But the good souls managed to reach the Elysian Fields, a paradise. The wicked were relegated to a deep pit under Hades and were forced to dwell there in eternal torment.

The Chinese philosopher, Confusius, did not believe the soul existed apart from the body.

But Dr. J. B. Rhine of Duke University believes the soul exists. He has demonstrated the fact of clairvoyance. Other researchers support his findings.

Man has a system that can function independently of the physical body, says Dr. Rhine.

The next existence is as rational as this.

Intelligence requires form in and through which to manifest itself.

I have heard the statement made that we do not know anything about the hereafter because no one has ever come back to tell us. *I am going to disprove that statement by the following revelation.*

Friends, I am now going to print verbatim the speech of Robert W. Ingesoll, *revealed from the other side of life,* through the mediumship of Cora L. V. Scott Richmond, the famous medium, I mentioned in the chapter on Personal Survival. This message was revealed at a Camp Meeting in Springfield Missouri, in August 1899.

"Mr. Chairman and Friends: Through an unaccustomed brain, in manner of speech, that is unusual, with a voice that is not my own, but borrowed for this occasion and from the convictions of another world, into which I was ushered suddenly by the white, silent messenger, I greet you at this hour.

"All that was of man in the earthy state, from which I have just arisen, lies behind me; all that is, has not been sufficiently learned in earth consciousness for me to declare; while all that is to be lies before me still unexplored, and the great realm of immortal life is still a mystery. But when suddenly that shock came which cut off, as in a single instant with a blade of lightning, my physical form, my spiritual and mental being was not even for a moment lost. Not for one instant was there cessation of consciousness in the brain; not for one instant was there cessation of consciousness; not for one instant was there lack of throbbing, pulsing life.

"It is true that before and beneath me I saw the mortal body. All that was known of me in human life was lying there, and to my great surprise I, conscious, thinking, living, wondering Robert Ingersoll, stood outside of my body. There it was, just the same as when I occupied it, except that it was prostrate and lifeless. In an instant I had been transferred into another body. There was the body that I knew to be mine, though not the glass of fashion and mold of form; there was the brain which I had supposed was the seat of all the intelligence that I possessed, now powerless within that cranium, not one cell of which could give forth a thought; there were those lips with which I had been accustomed to respond to words of affection; now when those words called my name, they could not answer; there were the eyes with which I had gazed upon the mysterious universe of life utterly and absolutely without sight, and there was the heart puseless and still.

"Oh! I said, Is that you, that thing that lies there helpless and without possibility of speech, or heart throb, or language, or affection? Is that the boasted thing that you called yourself, lying there now so prone, so power-

less? Have we parted company then? Am I alive and conscious to go on without you? Why, you were my hands and you were my feet, and you, tethered and encased in that clay, were my heart, and I thought you were my intelligence and my life. Poor body, what shall I do with you now? I cannot again reanimate those nerves. I cannot again think with that brain, I cannot again cause that heart to pulsate. I cannot again move that body to do my bidding. It is dead.

"Who am I then? What form is this that I possess? What is the semblage of this form? What is this that is thinking now? It is not the form that is cold and lifeless there, and what these heart throbs which go out with such ineffable and wonderful compassion? Oh, I am not dead.

"There were the beloved ones whose presence I will not introduce you to tonight, except to say that they thought me dead. I myself had taught them that it would be so. Save for that ineffable hope, that divine and wonderful prompting in every heart that seems to yearn toward a higher and diviner life, did I know it. Now, by all the powers in earth and air and sky, I did not know it.

"Mr. Chairman and friends, I have heard it said at this convention and in many councils of Spiritualists that while I was still upon earth, had I been true to my convictions, I would have avowed a knowledge of spiritual life and spirit communion. I did not know of it. I knew what Spiritualists think. I knew what they believe. I knew that there were many of them honest and true to their convictions. I spoke upon their platforms and in their camp meetings, because we were engaged in a common cause, viz., that of breaking down the errors and bigotry of a blind theology, but I did not know concerning the future life. However, I will say now, as some of you may have heard me say in human speech in my own particular

person, that I never stood before the lifeless form of a friend, never bent above that image of clay from which breath had taken flight that all the yearning of my nature did not go out in one great hope for immortality. I never stood beside the casket containing a loved one that I did not remember that the great beneficent life of nature holds all life in her keeping, and I believed that somewhere and some time those beatiful thoughts and inages would be conserved, but I had no knowledge of the life beyond death. I had no evidence that appealed to me as many of you have. There were my affections, my intentions, if you please, that led me through the divine gifts of imagination and poetry to dreams of a future life. There was the intellect, however, and it was trained in such a school of logic and evidence that nothing could be accepted which was not passed through that particular training school, and that part of me never had the proofs which Spiritualists claimed to have.

"That is why I am here; that is why the first moment it is possible, I come to declare that I was mistaken. I was not mistaken, or I have not found that I was mistaken in my estimate of what was not true. Because I found that the future life was not guarded by wardens upon either side who were waiting to conduct me either to hades or heaven. I have not found a yawning abyss which was opening to receive and devour me with its everlasting flame in the midst of torturing devils; I have not found a far-off heaven with walls and gates of precious stones, with an alabaster throne upon which a personal God is set, whose angels forever sing His praise and play upon harps of gold; I have not found any condemnation from any angel or spirit which I have come in contact with since the cessation of my mortal breath, but I have found, O Joy Ineffable, such a light as comes to the mariner when

out upon the storm-tossed sea he has battled with the elements and has almost been engulfed by the waves and no star is shining above to guide him, for when the polar light refuses to shed its radiance across his pathway. And then, in the gray dawn of the morning, over the mysterious beckoning, storm-tossed waves, a ray of light is seen, at first through the long, gray trailing mist of gloom; then, one by one, the piercing shafts of light rise toward the zenith and at last the world is thrilled and the waters are pervaded with a sense of the approaching day; and then from the great throbbing bosom of the sea, from the storm-created waves, from the billows which seem to blend the earth and sky, at last the chariot of the day is seen, and Phoebus, the mighty God of light, rises in triumph above the waves, and the world rejoices that it is day.

"Suddenly in the midst of the great, solemn silence of death, in the midst of the whirling thoughts that went surging through the brain into a shadowy something unknown, in the midst of pulsing tides of affection that sought to reach the loved ones who were left behind, in the midst of this which shut off the mortal breath, came the surpassing glory of spirit life. This sun of splendor rose suddenly, clear and cloudless; there was nothing that could mar its beauty or its perfection, and sweet strains of music, like those Apollo might have given on his harp of light among the stars, floated toward my consciousness and seemed to upbear me from the mortal thought.

"Wonderful thoughts came pulsing like argosies of light freighted with dreams of prophecy and hopes of immortality, and these bore the images of loved ones whom I had known in childhood, those who had gone into the white silence of death and from whom I had heard no more. They came and hastened to welcome me.

"We did not pass through space; we traveled to no

distant land. We did not enter any sphere that I am aware of, but were right there in the ineffable and wonderful awakening of all our attributes and powers. Instead of fading when the scenes faded, it seemed to me that every pulse was quickened. Every nerve was performing a thousandfold more duty. I could hear the voices of the loved ones saying softly and with hushed, tremulous voices, 'Is he dead?' I could also hear their hearts beat and feel the throbbings of their minds, as with great intensity of love, they asked the man of medicine if he could cure me.

"Was it a dream? Could this be another phantasy of the brain? Was it possible that my indisposition had taken on such shape and form? Was I really not out of my body but imagining all this? Sometimes it would flash upon me: This is not music I hear; these are not my friends who have died that I see before me, but only the memory of them; my brain is diseased and I will be restored, and I will be again among the members of my household and my friends on earth as before. But as soon as this thought would come to me, there would be the body lying there prepared or being prepared for the sepulcher; and there those spirits pointing me to that form and saying, 'No, you will no longer rehabilitate yourself with that form; you will no longer pervade that brain; you are alive in the realm of spirit!'

"Then, oh, such vast areas as seemed to sweep before my vision: the sun-kissed rainbow that crowned the universe seemed throbbing and pulsing with light and thoughts greater than I had dared to think in that house of clay came through my teeming brain as I realized that I was no longer an inhabitant of the dust but an immortal human spirit.

"Have you ever been in the confines of a closed room, or possibly in the depths of the earth, scarcely able to breathe

in an atmosphere so close and damp? Have you ever been shut up in a noisesome place where many persons were congregated and not able to breathe the air so vitiated? Have you ever felt tethered and fettered by your environment of dust? If you have, you know what it is when you set your feet upon the broad, green earth and can breathe the air of heaven and see the mountains beyond and all the bright verdure, and know that you are free. Not one-millionth part of this great joy. I seemed to be let loose from the fetters of the dust; I seemed to let something fall that was a clod, and I entered the realm that was my native element. Have you ever let a bird free from the cage where it was reluctant to sing its song, and then heard it burble in its native air? Have you set free a spirit that was in sorrow or in bondage in the earth life, weighted down with human cares and perhaps with poverty and want? Then you know something of the great tide of freedom that swept in and through my consciousness.

"It seemed to me that the chain of thought was limitless; it seemed to me that retrospect and prophecy were one; it seemed to me that all the things that I saw or did were before my consciousness and each unworthy act burned into my spirit with a bitter pang, and much that I had done was brought to my consciousness with added joy, for there were those who seemed to think I had done them good. Whomsoever I had helped in any way came toward me with added love, and upon whomsoever there had been bestowed a benefaction, even with my feeble earth hands and brain, that benefaction seemed doubled a thousandfold.

"Do not deceive yourselves, friends. I did not think I was perfect, and my human imperfections came out to meet me in the most distinct and glaring manner. Everything

that had bordered upon unworthiness, everything that bordered upon selfishness, everything in human life whatsoever that I had thought or done came before me as a part and portion of my spiritual inheritance, came before me like children saying, 'I am yours; you have thought me, you have acted me and if it is not worthy, it proves a shadow andp a barrier to further joy in this realm of the spirit.'

"I have not confronted that retrospect yet, dear friends, but the time is still coming when we must meet that introspection, which I understand must come to every spirit. I must meet the deeds, the thoughts and words of my mortal existence. But I am not afraid to meet them; they are mine, and I am responsible for them; I am willing to suffer for them, if need be. I shall require to have this introspection before I can take up this vast thread of life which opens up before me and intelligently bear it forward to its fruition. I shall require to understand who I am in this realm which is freer and greater than human life. I shall require to comprehend more and more of the great realities of life to life and mind to mind.

"But, friends, it is not appalling. I find nothing before me that is discouraging one of the least of those souls that are not free, of these spirits that surge and throng around me in the kingdom of immortal life. I still put my feet firmly upon the foundations of spirit life, and I am not afraid. There is nothing in this spirit life that can appall or make afraid; you enter upon your own inheritance and, I am happy to say that of all the things I may have committed that were wrong, of all the thoughts that may have been unworthy, I have tried to think and act with integrity and justice to my fellowman.

"So I find myself here upon the threshold of immortal life, not with any great spiritual possession, for I did not

have them, not with much understanding of the life that opened up before me, for I did not have it. But I find that the dreams I dreamed, even from early youth and manhood and the great tides of hope that have uplifted me even in the hour of contact with mortal death, are realities and this, the fulfillment of that hope in the reunion of beloved friends, and the fulfillment of that aspiration and dream in the great world or realm upon which I entered.

"I cannot tell you, as other spirits can, of added experiences in the spirit state; they must come to me. I must wait until the last sorrow has been hushed, until the tears over the casket are dried, which as yet are not fully parted from me. I must wait until I can take up the great inheritance of spirit life worthily and understand its true value and meaning.

"But, friends, I realize at this moment, in this, the first hour of my spiritual existence, that I am not separated from the great bond of sympathy, am not separated from my kind because I am dead, and I hasten to remove any barrier that a word or thought of mine may have placed upon the mind of any of you concerning that future life. If there is, let it be removed from this hour.

"I hasten to tell you that unbelief, although sincere and honest, is not the correct attitude of an intelligent mind, which may not have knowledge, for without knowledge what right have we to disbelieve? Doubt is the great agitator of thought and the commencement of wisdom, and the doubts of the past have enabled man to explore the avenues of human science and knowledge to the fulfillment of the laws of an all bountiful nature. But to say that there should be active disbelief in a thing which one knows nothing of is now revealed to me as being un-

worthy of an intelligent mind. I here retract any word or footstep that I may have taken in the realm of mind against the knowledge of a future life.

"I take back no word that I ever spoke concerning the degrading nature of theological fear. I take back no word that I ever spoke against that fear that enthralls mankind and refuses to let him go free in the realm of thought and active human life. But the difference between the theological heaven and hades and this realm into which I have now entered is the difference between darkness and light, between death and life, between annihilation and existence forever. I still say, as I often said when in human life, that between the hades of orthodoxy, theology and the limited heaven into which only a privileged few could enter, give me hades, for my friends would be there. But we are not there; we are neither in hades nor the burning pit, nor are we in the heaven that would dwarf our heart's sensibilities by a selfish immortality, based upon the foundation of perishing souls.

"We are in the midst of the universe of boundless life; we are in the midst of all the souls in the universe which are related to us. We clasp hands with infinite and eternal possibilities; we approach the great mountains of life, which are spiritual thoughts, and there sun-kissed and sun-crowned with the immortal splendor of truth stretching far away before any vision and ever and anon turning eastward for the consolation of those that are in human life.

"I hail you, Brother Chairman and friends, for the light that is being shed upon human pathways concerning this spiritual realm. I wish it could be broadened and deepened and opened into every human consciousness. In my feeble way, at this time and at this hour, I promise you that I will enjoy no heaven; that I will depart to no far-off

realm; that I will not separate myself from human existence until I, too, have made people aware that death is not death, but eternal life.

"But for the time come with me unto this, to where you can know they are restored, that life is life forevermore; that the mother's love poured out upon the heart of the weeping child binds up the wounds of the aching heart.

"Come with me, weary man of the world, weary of plodding day by day in the pursuit of worldly wealth, let me show you how your energies may be quickened, how your mind may be uplifted from the dreary treadmill of seeking for your daily bread; let the consciousness of this life, which I find has been closed to the world, uplift and strengthen your hearts that you may follow your daily vocations witph stronger hearts and more willing hands, and know that life immortal is not far away.

"Come with me, my intellectual friend, you who have endeavored to cope with the problems of material life, let me show you where, behind this thin film of the senses, behind this glamor of the intellect thapt blinds you today as it blinded me through my life, is the great spiritual solution of all problems."

VIII
REINCARNATION OR METEMPSYCHOSIS

Some spirits also reincarnate for awhile through the bodies of unborn babies. Some of the American Spiritualists do not believe in reincarnation but European Spiritualists do, and so does the author.

The theory of reincarnation exists throughout the world and it is very old. If the soul can leave an individual during sleep and reenter him, it should be able to enter and be reborn in another individudal. (Encyclopedia Britannica).

The above statement about a soul leaving the body during sleep and returning, I positively know to be true. It has been proven by many others.

The idea of reincarnation was held by a heretical sect of early Christians and spoken by Jeremy Collier as metempsychi.

Recently, hypnotics have been regressing people before their births. Remember Morey Burnstein's search for Bridey Murphy? But since Burnstein was an amateur hypnotist, it might have been possible for some errors to have arisen. On the whole, it was a very good demonstration. Also professional hypnotists are regressing people every day. *I think this hypnotic regression method is another very fine way to prove ethereal immortality* because you first have to go into ether before you can reincarnate and you generally don't reincarnate right away. However, the lower animals reincarnate more quickly, as

a rule, than human beings, due to a much greater need of a physical body.

I read an objection made by a famous investigator that you cannot regress a person before birth and get a true account. He said it is a known fact that hypnotic subjects are always trying to please the hypnotist. About pleasing the hypnotist, I will not argue but I know that not all the questions given a regressed subject before birth are direct ones and *the subject will give his own experiences.* The above investigator said if a subject were regressed to a different country where he lived before birth, he would speak in the language of that country. I do not believe that a person has two minds, one in the present and one he had in a past life. Also I do not believe that his present mind is blotted out during regression to a former life. You will remember that the mind is not blotted out even under anaesthesia. I remember one time when I was under ether. I called the surgeon, an old Irishman, but when I came to, I remembered nothing about it. And even if a regressed subject wanted to talk in another language that the hypnotist did not know, he would not be foolish enough to do so for the hypnotist might think he were talking in "dog Latin," for instance.

Since *The Search for Bridey Murphy,* I believe that this hypnotic method to prove reincarnation will continue.

I understand that under hypnosis you can be given a suggestion that you will remember things you did in a past life when you come out of the hypnotic condition. This would be wonderful. You could remember your past experiences and not make the same mistake again.

Furthermore, there may sometimes be spirit obsessions, for good or evil, into the bodies of people already born. But this is argumentative.

I consider myself to have had three lives and will tell you about them. I was told by three mediums who did not know each other that I was a reincarnation.

The first one said that I was born in ancient Egypt, two thousand years ago, and that I had led a very good life. Then I was in the Spirit World for several centuries until Mahomet came on the scene in the 7th Century A.D. I then led a very wicked life. I introduced the harem system into Turkey. By that system I forced women to share their love life with three other women and made eunuchs out of colored men for harem keepers. This seems to be true because I never had good luck with women. And where colored people are concerned, don't let me get around them if I don't want some kind of bad luck.

I have heard people say that sometimes when they went into a place they felt they had been there before.

Unusual prodigies have a tendency to prove reincarnation. For instance years ago in Los Angeles, a baby crawled into a swimming pool and used a scientific, not dog-fashion swimming stroke better than the swimming professor. Neither one of the parents could swim a stroke. It was claimed by reincarnationists that baby was the reincarnated soul of some great swimmer and some of his swimming knowledge swept through, so to speak, the reincarnation process. When he grew up, he would, very likely, have to learn to swim all over again.

I also read once of a baby in the cradle who spoke to its parents and said it was cutting its first molars. You people who do not believe in reincarnation can take this as you see fit.

But don't for a minute believe that anyone reincarnates into an animal.

You can hear some very funny things said, of course, about reincarnation. They must be taken as rank superstition.

There have been some very intelligent people who have believed in reincarnation.

Reincarnation is also known as "the transmigration of souls."

IX
THE HISTORY OF SPIRITUALISM

I want to state here that, as far as the ether world and communication is concerned, *there is absolutely no difference between spiritualism and spiritism;* spiritualism is a branch of Protestant Christianity and spiritism is not.

Spiritism has existed since the beginning of life on the earth—*it is the ethereal side of nature.* It has been testified to by all nations and peoples.

The ancient Egyptians were very good in this field.

Remember that the ancient Roman soothsayer was also a spiritualistic medium.

Back in Scotland in the 15th Century, the Highlanders had a mixture of Christianity and Spiritualism. Remember what Rochirick Dhu in Scott's poem, "The Lady of the Lake" said: "Thus spoke prophet bread twixt the living and the dead."

There is a certain amount of spiritualism in the Bible and in almost every other Bible with the exception of the Al Koran of Mahomet, because the people who wrote

them were spiritually-minded but, friends, don't think that makes these books the "Word of God" or books of science.

The Modern Spiritualist Movement started with the Fox Sisters in Hyde Park, New York, in 1848. And the Modern Spiritistic Movement was started in France in 1860 by Allan Kardec. In the old days, the Swedish scientist, Emanual Swedenborg, was a great teacher of Spiritism.

But during certain ages in our European civilization, Spiritualism was not practiced very much because of persecution but it existed just the same and often manifested itself privately. Remember that Joan of Arc said she heard "voices" telling her to lead the French Army. And the ignorant, superstitious people of her day burnt her as a witch! How horrible! *There is and never was such a thing as witchcraft!*

The American Indian was very much of a spiritist, for the more people live according to nature, the more psychic they are. It is said the Apache Indians would never fight at night, unless attacked, because they said their dead warriors rode their ghost horses to the council fire to visit them.

The fact that messages can transcend space and time tends itself to prove spirit survival.

There is a great deal of evidence to prove personal survival.

Scientific students feel that the phenomenon of spiritualism is genuine and therefore must be incorporated into the general body of science.

The societies for Psychic Research in both London and America have gathered huge amounts of evidence for Spiritualism.

The proof of mind-reading has demonstrated the possibility of spiritualistic communication, for if you can

read the mind of a mortal, why can't you read the mind of a discarnate spirit?

Spirits, being on a higher plane than mortals, can often give you very valuable information.

It is sad to see that Spiritualism today is not as popular as it was twenty-five years ago. The reasons are as follows:

1. The continuing advance of materialist thought in biology and psychology.

2. Fraudulent mediumship. But you know there are also fraudulent lawyers, doctors, and businessmen.

3. Spiritualists, *until now,* have never been able to prove their science *in a laboratory.*

These three reasons have caused people to remain materialists, who believe in no immortality. Also they have caused grants of money that used to be given for spiritistic investigation to be withheld.

Friends, I believe Spiritualism, especially since they can now prove clairvoyance in the laboratory. It will grow fast if we give it our best efforts.

I will name many people who have believed in Spiritualism: Stainton Moses, himself a powerful medium, helped to establish the London Spiritualist Alliance, which was joined by the naturalist, Alfred Russel Wallace. Whike, the physicist and chemist, and Sir Williams Crooks began a series of investigations into a variety of ethereal phenomena, with the help of the exceptional medium, D. D. Homes, through whom startling results had been obtained, as narrated by Lord Dunraven.

In 1882, a special society was founded by F. W. Myers and Dmund Gurney under the presidency of Henry Sidgwick. This society for psychic research accumulated a mass of information for Spiritualism, which was critically examined and recorded.

On the continent the spiritualist subject was taken up by Charles Richel in France; Von Schrenck in Germany and Morselli, Lombrosos, and Schiaparelli in Italy. Charles Rechel wrote a text book which, when translated into English, reads, *Thirty Years of Psychic.*

Books that purport to be records of collections through mediums in trance state are too numerous to mention but the eloquent work of F. W. H. Meyers, entitled *Human Personality and The Survival of Bodily Death* not only covers the subject up to 1900 but bids fair to become a classic.

Arthur Conan Doyle, who wrote Sherlock Holmes and was converted to Spiritualism by the modern apostle of Spiritualism, Sir Oliver Lodge, wrote a book on Spiritualism, showing its religious aspects.

X
THE SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Up to the discovery of evolution by Charles Robert Darwin in 1859 and the publishing of his *Descent of Man* in 1871, everybody believed in "direct creation" or the Adam and Eve story. But you would be surprised how many, even educated people, still do because they have never taken the time to investigate. Friends, let us awaken these believing "blind faith followers" and turn them into "investigating ones."

When the Modern Spiritualist Movement first arrived, spiritualists stopped believing in material immortality and accepted a spirit world instead and communications

with it; otherwise, they were about the same as the old-fashioned church people in their beliefs. Some people even today believe in the old Adam and Eve story instead of the *proven* science of evolution. I recently went to a spiritualist church where this story was preached and it made me sick; I almost wanted to leave.

While the only thing a spiritualist has to believe is that there is a Spirit World after death and that you can communicate with it, nevertheless, friends, *we must be modern* and forget old Adam and Eve because *"any church that does not agree with modern science will no longer have any legs upon which to stand."* I am quoting that statement about legs upon which to stand from the famous biologist, Julian Huxley. But I feel that we need a church where people can come on Sunday, pray to whatever they believe, hear a good moral lecture, sing inspirational hymns, and meet their friends. You had better make all the friends in this world you can, because when you get to the Spirit World, the more friends you have there, the better off you will find yourself.

Also you will find a better type of spirit communication in the Spiritual Church than out of it. However, there is a seeress today in Washington, D. C., who is very famous. Her name is Jeane Dixon.

While you will find an upright congregation in the Spiritualist Church, *it is not prudish,* young people. In strict orthodox churches, people used to and some still do consider society dancing wicked because the couples have to dance in close positions. They used to consider the theater the institution of the devil. Why—I do not know. And people had to pray and mope all day Sunday, never mind how hard they had worked the past six days. The Catholics are a little more lenient. If you attend Mass early Sunday morning, you can go out anywhere you want the

rest of the day provided, of course, your actions are wholesome. But the same church, when it comes to divorce and birth control, is absolutely terrible.

The Spiritual Church does not control anyone's morals, provided you live an upright life and *in accordance with your conscience.*

The priests, ministers, and rabbis need not lose their professions if they will recognize evolution instead of direct creation, and ethereal instead of physical immortality.

And if their members want to communicate with their deceased loved ones, put spiritualistic seances in their churches. They should find psychic people in their churches.

I do not suggest discarding the Bible as churches today are more or less supposed to have one *but look upon it in a liberal manner only.* Remember we are, if in name only, a branch of Protestant Christianity.

As I said in the previous chapter, Spiritualism in the last wenty-five years has had a slump. *This is terrible, friends! Let us get busy immeditately and build it up.*

Let us stop meeting in halls and private houses and build cathedrals such as the orthodox churches have. *Let us fill them to capacity.*

We have no war with the orthodox churches except when they call us demons and our religion the work of the devil. And if they continue to raid our churches by the police *we must "cross swords" with them. Remember, the Constitution of the United States says that religion is free in this country.*

Friends, we need money to support our cause, so when the plate comes around, please give generously, but if you are too poor to give a nickel, you are as welcome in our churches as the flowers in May.

DATE DUE

MAY 2 8 '64

FACULTY

MAY 20 1966

GAYLORD

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

BF1261 .B25
Evolutionistic spiritualism : the new
Princeton Theological Seminary–Speer Library
1 1012 00161 0627